GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3675
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2016
World Class Facilities to Tourists
Saraswati Shri Sumedhanand;Yadav Shri Om Prakash

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to renovate tourist areas and equip them with latest State-of-the-art facilities and also with user friendly public conveniences to make them accessible to more domestic and foreign tourists;
(b) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken by the Government in this regard along with the sites identified in various States/UTs of the country, State-wise including Rajasthan, Bihar and Jharkhand; and
(c) the time by which the said facilities are likely to be provided at tourist sites along with the funds allocated in this regard during the last three years?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (c): For development of tourism infrastructure and facilities in the country, the Ministry of Tourism has launched two new schemes in 2014-15 i.e. Swadesh Darshan - Integrated Development of Theme-Based Tourist Circuits and PRASAD- Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive.

Under Swadesh Darshan, integrated development of theme based circuits has been taken up for holistic and inclusive development which can provide engaging and complete tourism experience to both domestic and foreign tourists. The Scheme envisages enhancement of tourist attractiveness in a sustainable manner by developing world class infrastructure in the circuit destination.

Thirteen theme based circuits i.e. North-East India Circuit, Buddhist Circuit, Himalayan Circuit, Coastal Circuit, Krishna Circuit, Desert Circuit, Tribal Circuit, Eco Circuit, Wildlife Circuit, Rural Circuit, Spiritual Circuit, Ramayana Circuit and Heritage Circuit have been identified for development under "Swadesh Darshan".

The PRASAD Scheme guidelines envisage the integrated development of pilgrimage destinations in a planned, prioritized and sustainable manner to provide complete religious tourism experience to both domestic and foreign tourists.

Under PRASAD, thirteen cities/sites have been identified namely Ajmer, Amritsar, Amravati, Dwarka, Gaya, Kedarnath, Kamakhya, Kanchipuram, Mathura, Puri, Varanasi, Vellankanni and Patna.

The details of projects sanctioned to various States/Union Territory Administrations under both the schemes are annexed.

The completion time of projects sanctioned under the above scheme varies from 18 to 36 months.

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